

The Hotels of Yellowstone Park



Yellowstone
F
722.4
.41
no. 582



(Especially the new Grand Canyon
Hotel—a magnificent addition to the
tourist accommodations in the Park)

Northern Pacific Railway

A. M. Cleland, General Passenger Agent, St. Paul, Minn.



COACHING IN GARDINER CANYON
YELLOWSTONE NATL PARK

The Hotels of Yellowstone Park

IN no way is the increasing popularity of Yellowstone National Park and the growing tendency of discriminating travelers to visit that remarkable region better shown, than in the present-day efforts to provide hotels that shall measure up to the character of their patronage. It costs money to construct hotels in Yellowstone Park. All labor and materials, practically, have to come from the outside world and must be transported through the park by wagon. Construction work must necessarily be carried on in the interval between tourist seasons, which means late fall, winter, and early spring, a great handicap as may easily be seen. If those who visit the park in the warm and balmy summer tourist season when all is lovely and serene will bear these things in mind, they will the better realize the fact that the large, roomy, comfortable, modern and unconventional hotels now found in the park are a cause for high commendation.

By reference to the map it will be seen that, at each of the five points in the circle tour of the park where the most important and peculiar phenomena for which the region is known are found, there is located a large hotel. At two points—Norris Geyser Basin and the West Arm or "Thumb" of Yellowstone lake—are commodious lunch stations, situated conveniently as regards the needs of the inner man, as well as adjacent to objects or localities of interest and beauty.

Mammoth Hot Springs

Only five miles from Gardiner, the northern and official entrance to the park, is the administrative center of the entire park. It is also the





1. Mammoth Hot Springs 2. The Fountain Hotel 3. The Lake Colonial Hotel

location of Fort Yellowstone, the military headquarters. Here, at the large Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel, the ingoing and outgoing tides of tourists meet and mingle. Mammoth Hot Springs is a little Wonderland in itself. Set down in any large city it would attract tourists and visitors by the thousand. Here it is but one of a thousand wonderful objects.

The "Springs" Hotel stands near the foot of a rounded ridge jutting out to the Gardiner river from the neighboring mountain. It faces Lookout hill. Fort Yellowstone flanks the hotel on the east and the marvelous painted terraces and hot steaming pools rise step by step in large, striking masses at the west and but a short walk away. Liberty Cap is their guardian sentinel and a faithful one.

The building has accommodations for 250 guests, is high-ceilinged and roomy, steam heated, electric lighted, and supplied with modern hotel conveniences—private baths, barber, etc. The well-known Nurnberger Orchestra—selected from the Theodore Thomas Orchestra at Chicago—is located at the hotel during the tourist seasons, and adds life and variety to the surroundings.

The view from the hotel is an unusually inviting and varied one. A few miles distant, but clear and distinct in the rarefied atmosphere, rises the rounded, ridgelike Bunsen Peak; farther away and toward the southeast the lowlying timbered mountains near the Grand Canyon are seen; to the east, and nearest at hand, stretches the long, low, lava escarpment and plateau of Mt. Everts; to the northwest and north stand out in noble array the high, snow-flecked peaks around Crevasse, beyond Gardiner.

Nature intended Mammoth Hot Springs for just such a restful, inspiring use as mankind has made of it.

The Fountain Hotel

Forty miles to the south as the stage coaches run, located in a most peculiar, open valley in the mountains—Lower Geyser Basin—is the Fountain Hotel. Through the valley runs the unique Firehole river with its myriad hot water streamlets fresh from the spouting geysers and steaming hot pools. The hotel is a large, unpretentious, comfortable, "homey" structure with electric lights, steam heat, etc., and its delightful hot-water baths are supplied from one of Nature's own hot pools near-by. The hotel takes its name from the Fountain Geyser a short distance away, whose wonderful and comparatively frequent eruptions may be seen from the hotel. Near the geyser are the singular Mammoth Paint Pots, one of the most interesting features of the entire park.

The Fountain Hotel is set down in the midst of as rare and marvelous a collection of natural objects as is to be found on the globe. A little time is necessary—a day or two—to fully see and enjoy these interesting things. There are geysers of many kinds and hot pools of infinite variety. Paramount among these are the Great Fountain Geyser and Firehole lake.

Within easy access is Midway Geyser Basin where Excelsior Geyser slumbers and Prismatic lake lies garbed in radiant hues.



Veranda, Old Faithful Inn

Old Faithful Inn

A most unique hotel in a most unique region characterizes Old Faithful Inn in a few words. It were almost vain to attempt to describe



its quaint, refined "oddness." It is in a class by itself. It required genius to produce it. It is original in its originality.

It stands on a long, level terrace near Old Faithful Geyser and overlooks almost the whole of the Upper Geyser Basin, the most wonderful spot of its size in the world. From it the eruptions of most of the important geysers of the basin—Old Faithful, Giantess, Beehive, Lion, Grand, Castle, and others may easily be viewed.

The great building is several stories in height and is a long, wide, high mass of related angles, gables, dormers, roof, porches, and pillars that, viewed from a distance, forms a picture never to be forgotten. It is constructed of trees cut from the mountains and sawed and trimmed on the ground. The huge structure of logs and unplanned timbers is accurately fitted together; steam heat warms it—when necessary—electricity lights it, and a genial hospitality pervades its every hall and corner. Crooked and twisted limbs of all shapes and sizes, and rough gnarls have been utilized in most novel and effective ways. Enticing nooks and imposing corridors are seen; an enormous lava chimney, with eight fireplaces and an immense clock, welcomes the guest the moment he enters the door and stands within the vast lobby. This lobby, and office, is 75 feet square and 92 feet high, with rustic balconies on three sides reached by an equally rustic stairway. The furnishings are in the Arts and Crafts style, and it all represents an expenditure of about \$200,000. At night a giant searchlight plays on the geysers, producing most weird effects when seen from the porches and windows of the hotel. Old Faithful Inn is supreme of its kind—it is the most popular hotel home in the country. It is as well a surprising example of what art, when properly directed, can accomplish in the handling of crude materials.





Interior of the "Lounge," Grand Canyon Hotel

The New Grand Canyon Hotel

The Grand Canyon, the culmination and climax of everything in the park, merits a hotel in keeping with its character. With the tourist season of 1911 it will have precisely that sort of a structure.

Early in the fall of 1910 the construction of a new hotel at the Canyon was begun, and it will be ready for occupancy by tourists for the season—June 15 to September 15—of 1911. This new hotel will be as distinctive and impressive in its way as are either Old Faithful Inn or the Lake Colonial Hotel. It will be a five-story and basement frame building 640 feet in length and with an extreme width of 415 feet. It will contain 375 guest rooms, 75 of these having private baths. Nothing will be lacking to make it as complete as ingenuity and money can make it. It will be equipped with an elevator, cold storage and ice-making plant, electric lights, steam heat, a modern steam laundry, and a vacuum cleaning plant. From a sanitary standpoint, particularly, it will be interesting to know that the drinking water supplied to the hotel comes from a natural cold spring a mile and a half distant in the hills. An analysis of the water shows it to be absolutely pure, free from any trace of mineral matter. In a word, this hotel in the heart of the Rocky mountains will be as completely appointed as any metropolitan hostelry, while in the grandeur and inspiration of its surroundings it will stand absolutely alone.

The distinctive feature of the new Canyon Hotel will be the "lounge." This part of the structure will be 175 feet long and 84 feet in width and will project out from the lobby of the main building toward the Grand Canyon.

The main entrance, from the *porte cochere*, will be by a broad, easy flight of steps. The sides of the "lounge" will be, virtually, all of plate glass, affording the very best of light. There will be a large fireplace to add to the other attractions of the room. Here the guests will gather to talk over their experiences, compare notes, read, rest and enjoy the music of the orchestra which will be maintained here for the season of 1911. The "lounge" will be an ideal place for dancing and general recreation.

The idea of the hotel management has been to construct a hotel at this important and attractive point that, without being "fussy" or "overdone," would grace the surroundings and be in dignified keeping with the Grand Canyon. The cost of this elegant structure in the wilderness will approximate \$500,000.

With the new and splendid hotel this spot should become the ideal one—certainly in this country—in which to spend a vacation where pure air and water, nature in its most sublime mood, and healthful, wholesome, and pleasurable recreation in general, are the objects sought after.

The general elevation above the sea level here is about 7,800 feet, presaging a cool, comfortable atmosphere.

Delightful Excursions

From each hotel, numerous excursions—pedestrian, horseback, or by surrey—may be made.

From Mammoth Hot Springs, Bunsen Peak; Mt. Everts; the Fall of the Middle Gardiner River, also known as Osprey Fall; Undine and Rustic Falls; Golden Gate; the mouth of Boiling river; the trout streams of the vicinity and at Tower Fall; a ride to, or even a climb up, Electric Peak; a visit to the Antelope Park near the entrance at Gardiner, in addition to the terraces near at hand, are a few of many such trips.

From Fountain Hotel, besides the visits to the pools and geysers immediately at hand, a trip to Excelsior Geyser and Midway Geyser basin will prove a great surprise. Two delightful fishing and pleasure trips, one down the Firehole river to the Gibbon river, the other up Nez Perce creek and to Mary's mountain, are very popular.

From Old Faithful Inn there is a wide area of thermal ground right at hand to explore. Lone Star Geyser and Keppler Cascade are short distances away and are extremely interesting.

From the Lake Colonial Hotel, besides the fishing waters of Yellowstone lake and river, there are numerous points of interest to be reached either by boat or by riding. An interesting horseback trip, from either the lake or from the Canyon Hotel, is to go to the upper part of Hayden valley—passing the noted Mud volcano if going from the Colonial Hotel—to see the hundreds of mother elk and their calves that roam there.

From the Canyon Hotel, aside from the dreamy, inspiring wanderings along the rim of the great canyon, or listening to the thunder of its great cataracts as one gazes on the masses of tumbling water, there are splendid trouting grounds at some points on the river and in the gorge that are conveniently reached. But the great excursion from this point is to the summit of Mt. Washburn by the new and admirable road to the peak and across the Washburn range. The excursion may be continued to beautiful Tower Fall where there is also good fishing. This is a wonderful trip, and valuable as well.

Riding horses and two-horse surreys can be obtained at the various hotels for these excursions, at reasonable charges.

With its latest new hotel, Yellowstone Park becomes more than ever the most renowned outing spot in the world—a place where a week is all too short, a month passes with bewildering rapidity, and the entire season of three months seems but proper as a time to devote to that communion "with Nature in her various forms" which can only be enjoyed to the very fullest extent in "Wonderland."



The Lake Colonial Hotel

On the north bank of the beautiful Yellowstone lake stands the Lake Colonial Hotel, a long, four-storied, colonial-porched structure that breathes rest, content, repose, in every part. On the opposite shore the Absaroka range rises from the water's edge, a rough, steep, mountain wall, its upper heights and peaks absolutely bald and devoid of timber, and several thousand feet high.

The atmosphere of the spot is of the remain-with-us-awhile-and-rest sort, and certainly no better, more restful place can be found in the park—in this respect the Lake Colonial is preeminent. Even the august, solemn pelicans, that in grave and stately fashion move slowly over the surface of the water in front of the hotel, emphasize this feature of the spot.

The building conforms in every respect to its dignified Colonial style. It has all the comforts and modern conveniences that such a hostelry should

have; and California redwood office finishings, large soft rugs, mission chairs for ease and comfort—very enticing to the traveler; baths, auxetophone music to charm and enliven the hours, are some of the features. A fine view of the lake and mountains is ever before one and excellent fishing awaits the experienced angler who desires real sport, or the novice who has it all still to learn. Motor- and row-boats are available for pleasure and fishing trips.

Here one may read and dream and sleep, or ramble by the wave-lapped shore, as one desires.

Remember, the Lake Colonial Hotel is synonymous with rest, repose and comfort.

